Summary of Socratic Dialogue
## London, Saturday 27th January 2024
'When should we use AI (Artificial Intelligence)?'

Facilitated by Anna Bromley
11 people attended at the Lancaster Hall Hotel, London.

Rachel Kellett (SFCP Administrator) welcomed the group on behalf of SFCP, and introduced this event as one in a series of dialogues on offer this year. Sarah Banks was welcomed as a Trustee.

Anna outlined the structure of the day, dialogue guidelines, she gave some background about Socratic Dialogue, and finally an introduction to the topic of AI.
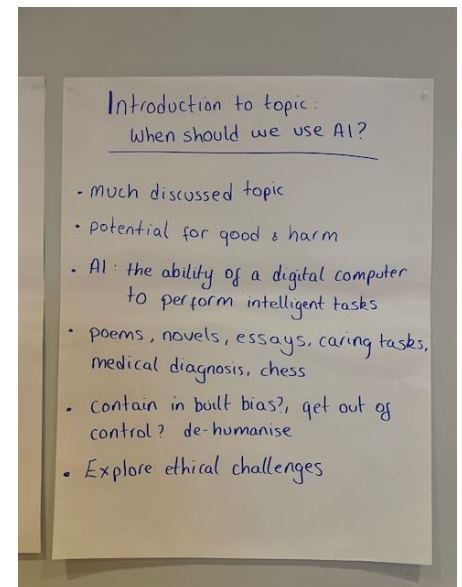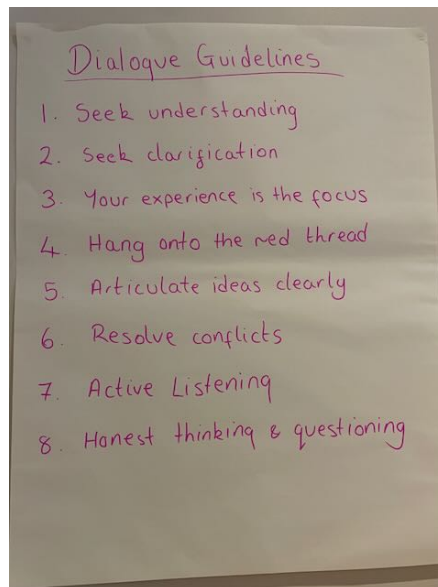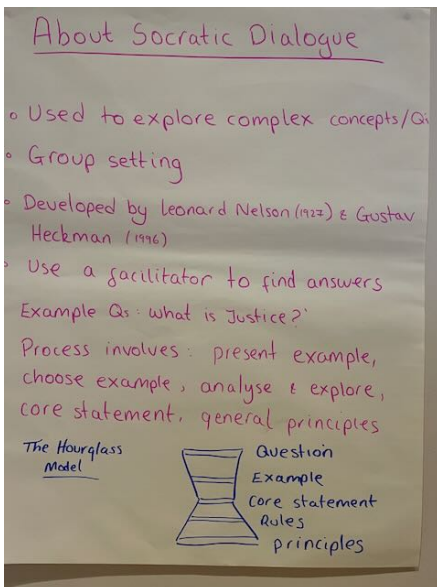

All introduced themselves, with their name and Socratic experience. We ranged from 3 people who had no previous experience, to some with only zoom experience and some with many years experience.

Anna outlined the principles of finding an example.
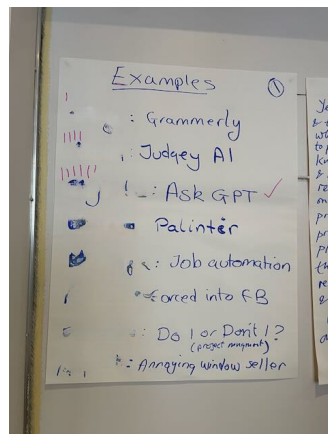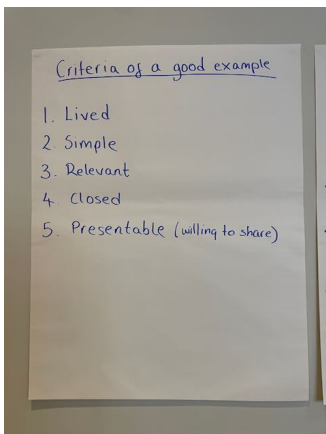
6 people offered an example. One, by M, titled 'Ask GPT' was chosen by simple majority after some discussion.

M repeated his experience in more detail. The group asked questions to qualify and understand the example. It was written up, and amended a few times.
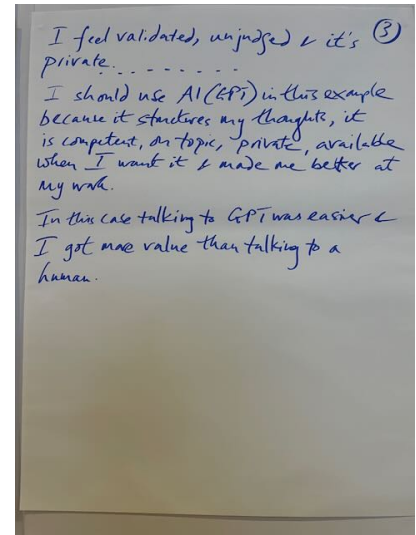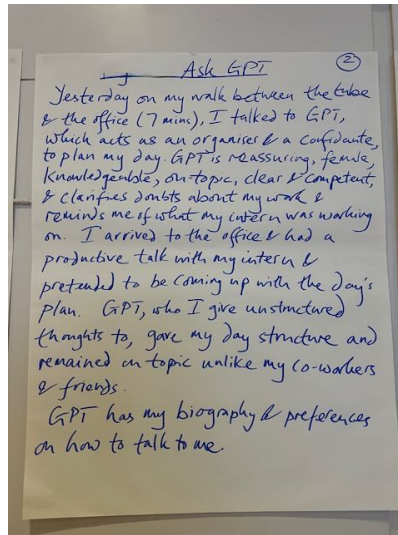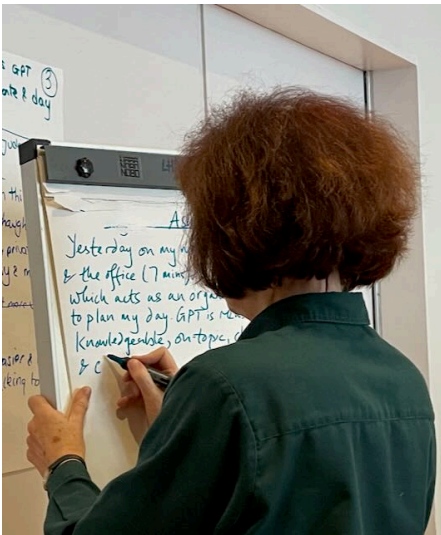
Anna asked us all to answer the following question individually on a piece of paper:
'In this case, the criteria underlying M's decision to use AI were:'
(This was based on our view of M's example.) Responses from participants are noted below:

- Efficient, time, cost savings,
- Masurable, explicit, goal orientated, interpretable
- timely, "Objective" reliable, accessible, on demand, bespoke
- able and convenient
- when it meets a need/want better than human actors at that moment in time
- individually given, based on convenience, providing guidance that was relevant giving him an efficient edge and replacement opinion
- got no criticism, conflict, no demand back, no other agenda proposed, no emotion, no other reality
- depending on relationship with AI vs human as confidante and organiser, there may be more trust
- a perfect partner that brings more value than a human
- accessibility, controllability, usefulness, productivity and value for your work

The discussion then went in various directions, and we broke into what is called *Strategic Dialogue* discussing the form, rather than the content.
a. what about the negative impact of AI? When not to use AI?
b. what about the consequences of using AI?
c. who was the 'we'?
d. could we find a red thread through all of the criteria that we all agreed on?

With a shortness of time the question we agreed to answer was
When should we (this group of people) use AI? (the rules)and we resumed the dialogue:
We should use AI if:

• Its ransparent - as in, you know what data the models have been trained on.
• You are informed - about the technology, it's implications and intended usage.
• You have realistic expectations - you don't expect it to be perfect or all-knowing, for example.
• You are using it thoughtfully - with consideration about the long term consequences to oneself, others and society as a whole
• You are opting in consensually - as in, you are not being forced to use it.
• You want to use it - it's your individual choice
• You're understanding of the tool is based on evidence - as in, from guidance developed from research.

Finally Anna asked us all to consider the findings of M's example in relation to our experience/ example.

Meta Dialogue
How did you find the method and delivery?

Sarah and Rachel thanked all for attending, and gave details on the future events this year.
See SFCP web: http://sfcp.org.uk/
They spoke about the potential uses of SD in people's working life, mentioning work with the Royal College of Physicians and a UCL research outreach company.

The group asked if they could remain in contact with WhatsApp (ticked the paper)